

facility that accommodates 50 additional students. As a result of the expansion, UCS also added an art program, art room, science lab and full-time counseling program. Because of her dedication to the students of UCS, Sister Maureen has been awarded with the Diocese of Cleveland Catholic School Excellence Award, the YWCA Greater Cleveland Women of Achievement Award, an Honorary Degree from John Carroll University and the Irish Good Fellowship Award.

In addition to her work with UCS, Sister Maureen is an active member of the Greater Cleveland community. She has been involved with the Boys & Girls Club, City Club of Cleveland, Laurel School and St. Ignatius High School. Currently, Sister Maureen is a member of the Education Committee for the Cleveland Museum of Art and Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Sister Maureen Doyle as she is recognized for her contributions to the Cleveland's Near West Side community as director of the Urban Community School.

#### RECOGNIZING BRENDA WELBURN

#### HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 23, 2011*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Brenda Welburn as the Executive Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE).

Throughout Brenda's outstanding career with NASBE, she dedicated herself to supporting not only state policymakers across the 50 states but, more importantly, students all across the country.

Brenda spent many years at the helm of NASBE, serving as a critical resource for state policymakers elected and appointed to State Boards of Education. During my six years of service on the Colorado State Board, Brenda and NASBE were instrumental in supporting me and all of the board in our universally shared goal of improving public education. I will never forget how we worked together to implement the requirements of No Child Left Behind and to integrate its requirements with Colorado's education accountability systems. With Brenda's help, we managed to navigate school finance decisions while communicating the benefits of public school choice, such as online learning and charter schools, and connecting traditional K–12 programs with college and careers.

Throughout her remarkable tenure at NASBE, Brenda has served as a steady and thoughtful leader, actively assisting state board members across the country. Her influence has been felt coast to coast, and because of her steadfast commitment to establishing and maintaining effective education policies, children across the country have been given a greater chance to succeed.

Brenda, we will miss you, but we thank you for your dedicated service and congratulate you on your retirement.

#### CONGRATULATING TAIWAN'S CENTENNIAL NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. THOMAS J. ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 23, 2011*

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan as they celebrate their Centennial National Day. The day is also to commemorate the 1911 Wuchang Uprising, a milestone of China's development and a new chapter which led to the end of the Qing Dynasty.

This National Day allows the people of Taiwan to gather together and celebrate their shared heritage, and provide them the unique opportunity to honor their past and present culture and achievements. Following President Ma Ying-jeou's annual address, there will be a parade of floats from 10 counties and various government agencies. A series of cultural activities and exhibitions, including a nationwide design competition and movie festival will be featured along with a traditional puppet display.

The historic ties between the United States and Taiwan run deep, and they continue to unite us. I hope our nation will continue its efforts to promote educational and cultural exchanges so that younger generations may enjoy and continue the legacy of our important relationship.

I look forward working together to deepen our relationship, and I wish the families celebrating this occasion a safe and happy holiday.

#### NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR MURDER VICTIMS

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 23, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, September 25th we recognize the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims.

Murder extinguishes the hopes and dreams of tens of thousands of victims each year, and an untold number of fellow Americans now live, daily, with the absence of a loved one.

Murder affects each and every one of us, and every community nationwide.

We must all work diligently to prevent the violence that destroys lives and devastates families.

A National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims offers Americans the opportunity to honor the memories of murder victims and recognize the impact of murder on surviving family members and friends.

A join victim service programs, criminal justice officials, and concerned citizens throughout America to remember the tragedy of murder, honor the courage of survivors, and vow to do whatever we can to help survivors rebuild their lives.

On the National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims we reaffirm this Nation's commitment to respect as well as support crime victims' rights and needs throughout the year;

And that's just the way it is.

#### TO ACKNOWLEDGE SEPTEMBER AS CHILDHOOD OBESITY AWARE- NESS MONTH

#### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 23, 2011*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge September as Childhood Obesity Awareness Month. Increasing awareness of this pervasive problem can help curb the increase in this epidemic and help families and children make better choices in the foods they eat and their overall lifestyle.

Over the past three decades, the rate of childhood obesity has risen to crisis proportions. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 32 percent of children are overweight, 16 percent are obese, and 11 percent are extremely obese. In some racial and ethnic groups, in low-income populations, and among recent immigrants, the rates of obesity among children and youth are alarmingly high.

The health consequences for these children are very serious. They are at much greater risk of developing diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma, and other diseases than their non-obese peers. Many children are subjected to ridicule and bullying that damages their emotional well-being. Beyond the tragic consequences for the children themselves are the effects on the American economy. Obese children are at risk of growing into obese adults who do not participate fully in the workforce because of employment discrimination, lost productivity due to illness and disability, and premature death. If the childhood obesity epidemic continues at its current rate, conditions related to type 2 diabetes, such as blindness, coronary artery disease, stroke, and kidney failure, may become common conditions of middle age. Health care costs for this population are likely to rise to an extent we are only now beginning to appreciate.

As a nation, we need to make sure that our young people receive a consistent message that encourages them to adopt healthful eating patterns; helps them to understand their nutritional needs; and teaches them healthy lifestyle choices, especially relating to physical activity.

We can, and we simply must, make addressing childhood obesity a national priority. Not only must we help the children who are already affected, we must not fail to protect another generation. Health is more than the absence of physical or mental illness—it is also the extent to which children and youth have the capacity to reach their full potential.

#### REAFFIRMING THE STRONG U.S.- ISRAEL PARTNERSHIP IN PUR- SUIT OF LASTING MIDDLE EAST PEACE

#### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 23, 2011*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to oppose Palestine's bid for statehood at the United Nations (U.N.) and to encourage the